

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the abstract with the following amended paragraph:

~~The present invention is generally directed to~~ A system and method for communicating information to and from memory devices. In one embodiment, the invention includes a memory system having a memory device having at least one extraneous device pin, a memory controller configured to control the memory device and a signal path extending between the memory device and the controller that includes the at least one extraneous device pin, the signal path being operable to a transfer a selected memory system characteristic between the controller and the memory device.